

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 03329 020720Z
ACTION DOE-15

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 EB-08 SOE-02 OES-07 SIL-01
LAB-04 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00
INT-05 NSCE-00 SS-15 A-01 OPR-02 CPR-01 /087 W
-----127801 020723Z /11

O 020629Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3157

UNCLAS CANBERRA 3329

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH, ENRG, AS
SUBJECT: COAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

REF: STATE 079788

1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN INFORMED BY BOB LEYLAND OF DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT THAT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN DOE AND GOA'S DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ON COAL CONVERSION HAS BEEN UNDER REVIEW BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE WHICH HAS SOME PROBLEMS WITH ARTICLE TEN (10) CONCERNING WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION. LEYLAND SAID THAT GOA WOULD BE SENDING IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM TO ITS EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON PROVIDING THE QUESTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN RAISED WHICH, HE SAYS, ARE NOT MAJOR ONES. IF THESE CAN BE RESOLVED, HE SEES NO REASON WHY SIGNING COULD NOT TAKE PLACE DURING VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO AUSTRALIA.

2. LEYLAND SUGGESTS, HOWEVER, THAT IN THE EVENT THESE QUESTIONS CANNOT BE RESOLVED BECAUSE OF THE SHORT TIME ALLOWED, AND SINCE THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE BUREAU OF MINES OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND THE GOA'S DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RELATING TO COAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE IS SATISFACTORY, IT COULD WELL BE SIGNED DURING THE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT NEXT WEEK.

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HE IS ALSO SO INFORMING THE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON IMMEDIATELY.
ALSTON

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NNN

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